

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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13

ACTION EA-01

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 INR-01 PRS-01 /005 W

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O R 090700Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO USINFO/WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3321

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

SECDEF WASHDC

UNCLAS PHNOM PENH 10860

USINFO ALSO FOR VOA NEWSROOM

USINFO ALSO FOR IEA

BANGKOK FOR HEDGES

BANGKOK AND SAIGON FOR VOA CORRESPONDENTS

STATE S/PRS AND EA/P

CAMBODIAN SITUATIONER

1. IN A NATIONAL DAY MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT LON NOL ON THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY TUESDAY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC, PRESIDENT NIXON EXPRESSED HIS ADMIRATION FOR THE COURAGE AND DETERMINATION DEMONSTRATED BY THE KHMER PEOPLE IN THE FACE OF BRUTAL AGGRESSION. THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT EXPRESSED HIS HOPE THAT A JUSTLY DESERVED PEACE WOULD SOON RETURN TO THE KHMER NATION.

2. MEANWHILE, THE MILITARY SITUATION IN THE REPUBLIC WAS MARKED BY A LOW LEVEL OF FIGHTING ACROSS THE COUNTRY-. AT KOMPONG CHAM, FOUR SCATTERED SHELLING INCIDENTS WERE REPORTED INCLUDING ONE AT TONLE BET ON THE EAST BANK OF THE MEKONG OPPOSITE THE CITY. A TEN-SHIP KHMER NAVY CONVOY FROM KOMPONG CHAM ARRIVED

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SAFELY IN PHNOM PENH LATE MONDAY AFTER RUNNING THROUGH

ONE ATTACK BY COMMUNIST FORCES NEAR PREK TAMERK. THERE WAS NO DAMAGE OR CASUALTIES.

3. AT THE BESIEGED TWON OF VIHEAR SUOR 13 MILES NORTH-EAST OF PHNOM PENH, COMMUNIST TROOPS WERE ROUTED FROM THEIR BUNKERS BY FANK 155-MM ARTILLERY FIRE. AT THE SAME TIME, FANK RELIEF FORCES HAVE APPROACHED TO WITHIN 1.1 KILOMETERS OF A LINK-UP WITH THE VIHEAR SUOR GARRISON.

4. GOVERNMENT TROOPS MONDAY MOVED ONE KILOMETER WESTWARD ALONG ROUTE 2 SOUTH OF PHNOM PENH AGAINST MODERATE COMMUNIST RESISTANCE. FANK REPORTS THAT THE ENEMY WAS FORCED TO ABANDON THREE POSITIONS.

5. THERE WAS NO CHANGE IN THE SITUATION ON ROUTES 4 AND 5. ROUTE 4 HAS BEEN OPEN FROM PHNOM PENH TO A POINT SOME 15 MILES WEST OF KOMPONG SPEU SINCE SEPTEMBER 20. TRAVEL BETWEEN KOMPONG SPEU AND PHNOM PENH IS NORMAL.

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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